

Minutes of the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture  
May 7, 2015

Attending: Stephanie Marlin-Curiel (chaired), Adria Arch, Carla Dorato, Jonathan Hyde, Leland Stein, Aimee Taberner (took minutes), Amy Mongeau (cultural liaison)

Absent: Barbara Costa

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by A. Taberner who ran the meeting until S. Marlin-Curiel's arrival.

1. Minutes of ACAC April 9 and special meeting of April 16<sup>th</sup> were tabled until June meeting so B. Costa could provide comment.
2. Town Meeting report on ACAC budget. Proposed budget was included by town manager and had been reviewed by finance committee. Town Meeting had not discussed this part of the budget or voted to approve the budget. If approved, a Treasurer will be needed to manage ACAC account. Leland Stein volunteered to do so. Commission voted to approve his appointment. Leland will follow up with Adam Chapdelaine or Eileen Mesina to determine process.
3. Plan for the Cultural Plan. If budget approved, money was allocated to a consultant to assist with cultural plan. A. Taberner to follow up with Massachusetts Cultural Council to determine if a list of recommended consultants is available. Agreed that it would be helpful to start gathering relevant data, reports in advance. A. Arch to contact Ann Bunder to determine if pro-bono work or intern is available to work on this project during the summer.
4. Cultural District Meeting Debrief and Follow up. Achieved goals of introducing cultural district concept and process, getting people to agree to be involved. A sub-committee of interested parties should convene a meeting to work on the application process. Issue of boundaries of district still uncertain. Arlington Center has denser grouping of cultural organizations and businesses, but may wish to propose a larger district to include East Arlington. If MCC determines boundaries to be too broad, perhaps ask them to advise town on what could be done to better connect the areas, or proceed with two cultural districts. Agreement that cultural district needs involvement of Chamber of Commerce, and that organizations and businesses outside of the official district boundaries could still be promoted through any established cultural district.
5. Involvement of Cultural Council. Agreement to determine how to better work with ACC to get them involved in the larger cultural planning initiative and engage them in supporting the objectives identified as priorities in the cultural plan. Invite ACA members to July meeting. Give thought to better defining relationship between ACAC, ACC, and Cultural District group.
6. Other business. Agree to move July meeting from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup>. A. Taberner will look into booking a location.

Action items:

- L. Stein to follow up re new Treasurer responsibilities.
- B. Costa to follow up with those who were unable to come to April 16th meeting.
- S. Marlin-Curiel and A. Taberner to follow up with cultural district survey.
- S. Marlin-Curiel to follow up with library re involvement in cultural district group.
- C. Dorato to follow up with Chamber of Commerce re involvement in cultural district group.
- Convene core group to proceed with application process, including representatives from: Chamber of commerce, library, merchant's group, ACA, and Town (Joe Curro or someone from planning dept.) Who? Can someone from ATED take the lead on this?
- A. Taberner to follow up with Massachusetts Cultural Council to determine if a list of recommended consultants is available.
- A. Arch to contact Ann Bunder to determine if pro-bono work or intern is available to work on gathering information for cultural planning project during the summer.
- A. Taberner will look into booking a location for July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- S. Marlin-Curiel to invite ACC member to July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.